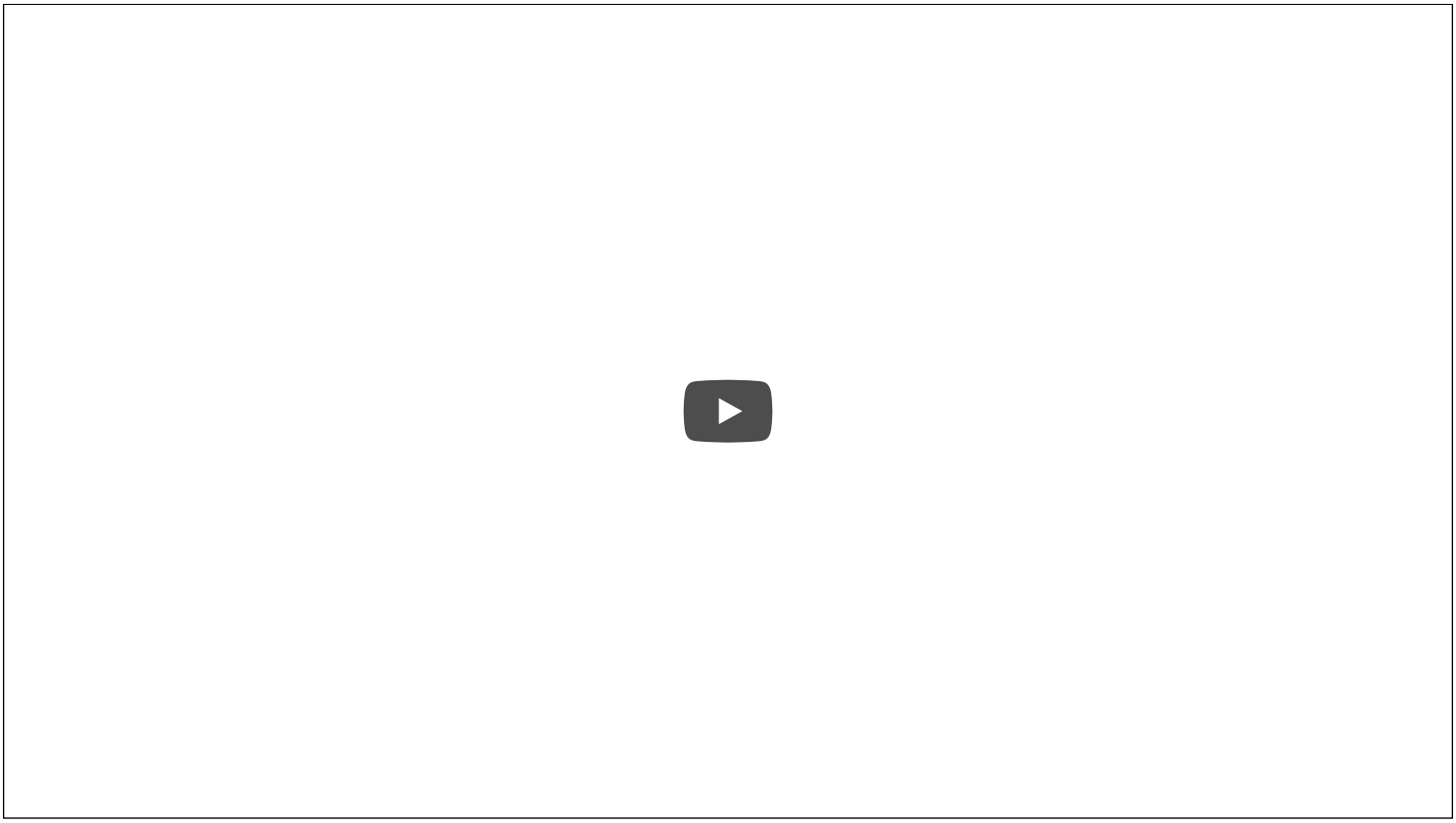

Snowden was right. Now Trump should pardon him.

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Why Edward Snowden deserves not only a presidential pardon, but a hero's welcome home.

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Twelve years after facilitating the largest national security leak in American history, Edward Snowden remains exiled in Russia, unable to set foot on U.S. soil without losing his freedom.

A bipartisan consensus denouncing Snowden as a criminal traitor quickly formed in Washington, D.C., following the revelation of his identity in 2013: "I don't think Mr. Snowden was a patriot," President Barack Obama said at a press conference. Hillary Clinton dismissed him as "a lawbreaker," House Speaker John Boehner called him a "traitor," Rep. Mike Pompeo (R–Kan.)—later CIA director—called for his execution.

The U.S. government was illegally surveilling its own citizens, and because of decisions made by Congress and the Bush and Obama administrations after the 9/11 terrorist attacks, America was on track to become an Orwellian police state.

This hasn't happened yet thanks in large part to Edward Snowden, who deserves not only a presidential pardon, but a hero's welcome home.

Producer: Zach Weissmueller
Editor: John Osterhoudt
Graphics: Lex Villena

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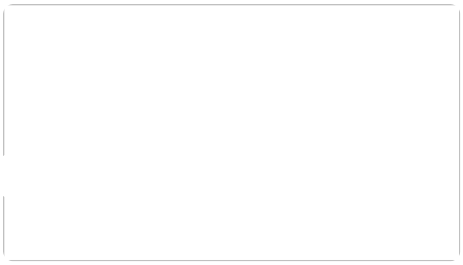

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After doing what Snowden did, I would never come back even if I were pardoned. Someone would try to bump him off anyway.
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watching this in the wake of the government saying "there never was an Epstein client list"
man, we need another Snowden more than ever
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I have always believed that Edward Snowden was a Godsend and he deserves a pardon and a medal!
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@Shhhoooooo 1 month ago
If the politicians hate you, then you're doing something right.
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@juliancain6128 1 month ago
Plato — 'No one is more hated than he who speaks the truth.'
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the so called "patriot act" needs to be abolished. full stop
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@nanook14100 3 weeks ago
WE THE PEOPLE..THANK YOU SNOWDEN !
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When both parties are after someone, you know that person is in the right.
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@henrymorgan3982 1 month ago
The real traitors are the people who want to harm him and have something to lose from the truth.
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@joelsmith5769 1 month ago
This is peak irony — the government calls Snowden a traitor for exposing its own illegal actions.
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